

In the Claims:

PENDING CLAIMS

A2  
1       3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:  
2              assigning phase polarities to phase regions;  
3              defining edges of the assigned phase regions;  
4              establishing a boundary around the defined edges; and  
5              assigning area outside of the established boundary to have phase  
6              zero.

A3  
1       17. (Once Amended) A method of enhancing clear field phase shift  
2       masks with a chrome border around outside edges of phase 0 and phase 180  
3       regions, the method comprising:  
4              assigning phase polarities to phase areas, the phase areas  
5       including first phase areas and second phase areas;  
6              defining edges of the assigned phase areas;  
7              establishing a first boundary around the defined edges of the first  
8       phase area;  
9              forming a chrome border in the first boundary around the first  
10      phase area;  
11              establishing a second boundary around the added edges of the  
12      second phase area; and  
13              forming a phase shift border in the second boundary around the  
14      second phase area.

18. (Once Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein defining edges  
2       of the assigned phase areas includes defining break regions where phase  
3       transitions occur and generating polygons including edges but excluding break  
4       regions, wherein the polygons are merged with the assigned phase areas.

24. (Once Amended) The mask of claim 22, wherein the second  
2       chrome boundary region includes an opaque material.